

Etagram

Chi State

Area XII

Eta Chapter

President's Message

Teamwork, Trust, Transition

This was the title for the Chi State 2014 Convention and seems to have become my mantra as I move into the role of President for Eta Chapter.

TEAMWORK:

I am fortunate to have a wonderful team/board to work alongside as we strive to promote the Society's purposes. They have stepped into their responsibilities and are eager to help Eta continue to be a Five Star chapter in Chi State. I look forward to working with all the members of Eta as we help our chapter grow.

TRUST:

I am honored that Eta has put her trust in our new board and me. We are determined to move Eta forward with fresh ideas and activities. We wish to honor our traditions and celebrate new experiences. We trust that Eta members will not be disappointed.

TRANSITIONS:

This has been the biggest of the three T's this past spring/summer. I have had transitions at home. My son and his wife have moved into our home for one year as they look to purchase their own home. At the same time, my daughter has moved out into her newly purchased condo. Also, I have transitioned from teaching grade five to grade three. Last, but not least, I am transitioning my role on the board from Membership Chair to President. All of these transitions have been relatively easy because of TEAMWORK and TRUST. I am looking forward to this biennium. I am honored to serve you, my Eta sisters!!



Meet the Board

President---Alida S.



Alida has been teaching for 32 years. She has taught every grade level from Kindergarten to grade six, as well as Reading Recovery and In-class Literacy Specialist. She is currently teaching a grade three Intensive Literacy Class at Signal Hill Elementary.

She met her husband Chris in 1982. They were grade five colleagues at Roosevelt Elementary. They have been married for 30 years and have two beautiful children: Patricia and Edward (married to Haley). No grandbabies yet!

Alida joined Eta Chapter in 2000. Cheryl J. invited her to come to a meeting at MOLAA and she was hooked. Alida has served on the board as corresponding secretary, hospitality chair, nominations chair, membership chair and has done inspiration. Alida is honored to serve as President!

Treasurer---Tina N.



Tina N. currently teaches 5th grade at Cleveland Elementary and has been teaching for twenty-five years.

Eight of those years have been as a member of Delta Kappa Gamma thanks to the persistent prodding of Barbara B. Your dues checks go to Tina who has been treasurer the last two years and will continue to fill this position the next biennium. (PS...DUES are due October 20th.)

Tina lives in Long Beach with her husband and two boys who will both be freshman this year. Travis will start at the University of Washington in September and Justin began his freshman year at St. John Bosco HS this August. Tina loves to do “crafty” sort of things from card stamping, sewing and knitting, and has become a big fan of Pinterest. She also loves to spend time in the mountains with her family, skiing or hiking.

First Vice President/Programs----Judith K



Judith has been married to Brian for 20 years. They have 2 wonderful boys; Collin is 15 and Aidan is 9. She likes to exercise and read books when not driving her kids around to their extra curricular activities.

This coming school year, she is going to be the Intervention Teacher at Tincher Preparatory School after teaching second grade for many, many years. She is a Cotsen Alumni and plans to continue her work with them by participating in workshops and training.

She was invited 11 years ago by Judy M. to be a member of DKG when they worked together at Buffum Elementary School as Reading Specialists. As a member of DKG, she has been the hospitality chairperson, a corresponding secretary, and a member of the nominating committee.

Second Vice President/Membership Chair---Judy S.



This is Judy Sears' fourth year of membership in DKG. She was introduced to Eta Chapter by Karen H. and Louise M. While a member of Eta, Judy has coordinated and tallied the chapter's steadily increasing THAT hours. She has worked with KD to create and maintain the chapter's website. She plans to focus on new member initiation and member retention. This year, she will repeat her role as Spring Conference chair for Chi State Area XII.

Judy retired from LBUSD after 30+ years as a middle school special education/RSP teacher. She views every day as a holiday and uses as much time as possible during her "seven day weekends" to enjoy reading, movies, live theatre, music, and helping others.

She has been married for over forty years to her husband, Mike, and feels her daughter is her pride and joy.

Recording Secretary---Karen E.



Karen has been a member of DKG for ten years. She has worked for LBUSD for many years, beginning her educational career as a college aide at Muir, Emerson and Gompers. Karen taught fourth and third grades at Garfield, Harte and Kettering. She served as a Mentor teacher for the district. Karen holds a Masters degree in Reading/Language Arts with a Reading Specialist Credential. Currently, Karen works in the Human Resource Services Department with LBUSD on Elementary Recruitment and Staffing.

She enjoys hiking, traveling and shopping and is a CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) volunteer who works to help support foster youth.

Karen joined DKG because of the wonderful support and encouragement of other women educators. She was recruited by Arlene H. and Judy M. Both have always been supportive mentors. She is looking forward to serving on the Board.

Corresponding Secretary---Terri Y.



Terri is mom to 3 kids; Katherine (and son-in-law Matt), Michael (and daughter-in-law Kasey) and Brian, as well as Nana to 8 year old Conner. She's been teaching since 1980 (you can do the math). She taught special education in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing program for 26 years and has been a general education teacher for the past 9 years. This is Terri's 25th year with Long Beach Unified, all of them at Cleveland Elementary.

She loves reading, cooking, crafting (especially handmade cards and scrapbooks), wine and gardening. She is an L.A. Kings hockey fan and binges on the cooking channel!

She was first introduced to Eta by Barbara B. and Julie D. when she was invited to the Books and Bears event about 10 years ago. She was recruited by Tina N. and Julie D. and has been a member for 2 years.

Parliamentarian---Louise M.



Louise M. was born in Chicago and moved to CA after graduating from Indiana U. She taught elementary school children before getting her credential for teaching children who are blind or visually impaired. She worked with VI kids from birth to 21 for 37 years before retiring in 2008. Her passion was working with the babies and their families.

Louise became interested in DKG when she attended a Bears and Books brunch as Linda F.'s guest. She was impressed with the camaraderie and compassion exhibited by the members. She joined Eta in 2003, and has since served as corresponding secretary, 1st VP in charge of Programs, and co-President.

Louise has been enjoying her retirement as it gives her more time for travel (off-season), lunch or breakfast with friends, eating sushi, line dancing at the senior center, reading, knitting, and trying out new recipes on her husband, David, and her furry friends, Portia and Harley.

Parliamentarian---Shannon R.



Shannon has been a member of Delta Kappa Gamma for eleven years. During this time, she has served on the board in the roles of recording secretary, treasurer and co-president and will continue on this biennium as co-parliamentarian. Shannon enjoys the camaraderie and knowledge she gains by being a part of such a dynamic chapter. She is inspired by each of the women she gets to call "sister."

Shannon just recently started her fourteenth year as a fifth grade teacher. She loves working with the older elementary students. It is a great year of growth and transformation for the kiddos.

Shannon enjoys traveling and spending time with her two golden retrievers. She also spends way too much time getting lost on Pinterest!

ETA CHAPTER PROGRAMS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>PROGRAM</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
9/27	9:00 p.m.	Brunch/recommitment	Westminster Town Hall
10/21	5:45 p.m.	School Tour/Speaker	McBride High School
12/6	9:00 a.m.	Holiday Brunch Books and Bears	L.B. Yacht Club
1/14	5:45 p.m.	TBA	Hoover Middle School
2/ 7	9:00 a.m.	PEP Girl's Auction	Westminster Town Hall
3/16	5:45 pm.	TBD	Hoover Middle School
4/ 18	9:00 p.m.	Area XII Conference	The Grand
5/1 to 5/3		Chi State Convention	San Francisco
5/7	5:45 p.m.	Barnes & Noble	Marina Pacifica
5/8	7:00p.m.	BARK Pajamarama	Marina Pacifica
6/ 6	11:30 a.m.	Grant Recipient Tea	Alida Steinhauser

Dues**Dues****Dues****Dues****Dues**

Dues are due to the Treasurer, Tina N., by October 20, 2014!!!
\$95 for Active and \$59 for Reserve Members

Happy Birthday:

Betty Ann O. -- Sept. 13
Alida S. -- Sept. 13
Julia M. -- Sept. 23
Charlene C. -- Sept. 25
Karen E. -- Sept. 27
Blanche C. -- Sept. 30

Helen H. -- Oct. 4
Peggy H. -- Oct. 5
Barbara B. -- Oct. 6
Arlene R. -- Oct. 8
Marlene D. -- Oct. 12
Judith K. -- Oct. 17
Louise M. -- Oct. 19
Annabelle B. -- Oct. 19
Julie D. -- Oct. 30

PINS! PINS! PINS! PINS! PINS!

All Eta members wearing their pins to meetings will receive a ticket for an opportunity drawing. Our pins are given as a symbol of honor for membership. Please remember to wear them proudly!!!

As stated in our Chapter Standing Rules, all pins are to be returned to the chapter; for example your anniversary pins. Please remember to keep a note with your pins for family members to know what to do with your Delta Kappa Gamma pins after your passing. (I know it is not always a pleasant conversation!)

Also, at the meetings, there will be forms to order magnetic name tag/pin holder.

“Back Home Again in Indiana”

Although Chicago was my first home, I still consider Indiana, where I spent four years at Indiana University, as my second. The beautiful Indianapolis JW Marriott, the site of the 2014 Delta Kappa Gamma International Convention, was a welcoming vision. They exhibited “Hoosier Hospitality” at its finest. Although I wasn’t new to Indiana, being at an International Convention was a new experience for me. From the greeter at the door, to the unedited personal welcome letter from an Indiana kindergartener, to the warm welcome by International President, Dr. Beverly H., I knew I was in for a treat. The opening ceremonies began with the Presentation of the Flags from the seventeen countries that represent DKG internationally. My emotions soared when Reiko S. from our newest “state” of Japan delighted us with a beautiful song in Japanese and English. A more “down home” songfest was provided by the Wright Brothers at Indiana Night and when they sang “California Girl,” all the Chi State members were on their feet and rockin’ out!

There were five general meetings. At three of these, we discussed the proposed amendments to the Constitution and International Standing Rules. It was parliamentary procedure in motion! Many issues were debated; some passed, some not, some postponed. It was interesting to watch the process and to be a part of it.

The highlight of the meetings was the three keynote speakers. Sarah S. spoke about “The End of Membership as We Know It” where she outlined effective steps in attracting and retaining multigenerational members. The second speaker was Ron R. and in his presentation on “Hidden Secrets Double Your Memory,” he amazed the audience by showing us techniques for memorizing lists of items and recalling people’s names. It really works! The final speaker was Ellen K. and her presentation on human trafficking, entitled “Modern Day Slavery,” was eye-opening and depressing. Her statistics were astounding, including the fact that 100,000 children are drawn into prostitution each year in the US. Her thesis, that much of the increase in sex trafficking is due to the Internet and the poor economy and as teachers, she advises us to carefully look at children with unexplained absences, changes in appearance, bruises, or behavioral changes.

I attended several interesting breakout sessions. One was on “Creating a Documented Legacy,” in which ideas were presented on how to create something memorable for other generations to share, such as designing photos and memory books. I enjoyed Rachel A. session in which she shared portions of her award-winning book, *Raising Henry* which was about the joys and frustrations of raising a son with Downs

Syndrome. I was inspired by a session about a chapter in Texas that was looking for a meaningful chapter project and developed a relationship with the local Girl Scouts. The girls could earn a badge for a particular service project by collaborating with these DKG chapter members. Why not try this at home? When not attending sessions I could be found enjoying the sights of Indianapolis with Karen H., her hubby, Allan, and my roomie, Marlene.

My most memorable experience came at the Celebration Luncheon. I had just sat down at my assigned table and began conversing with my tablemates from around the country. I was interrupted by the voice of the incoming president, Lyn S., asking if there was a “first timer” at our table. I raised my hand and was ushered by Lyn to the head table where I was to represent all the first timers. Whoa! Looking out at the sea of 1400 sisters was a bit intimidating, especially when you are on camera and being watched as you carefully eat your soup. The evening ended with a heavy rainstorm (CA members looked in awe!) and an enjoyable conversation with another first-timer from Norway.

There were so many memorable moments at the Convention but what lingers is the feeling of camaraderie, the sense that we are united in our mission, and our pride in being women educators. I felt at “...home again in Indiana...” because being with so many of my DKG sisters from all over the world made me feel at home. This may have been my first International Convention but it won’t be my last.

Louise M.
Eta Chapter

